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Mary Deats

Feb 20, 2019

Subject: Petition Against the Duke Energy Rate Increase

Dear Commissioners:

As a Duke Energy electric customer, I encourage you to closely examine the Duke Energy electric rate proposal (2018-319-e) when it comes before you, Specifically, I am concerned that:

Duke Energy's proposal to increase the basic facilities charge, a fixed cost from \$8.29 to over \$28. This would make this mandatory fee one of the highest in the country and much higher than the other investor-owned utility in South Carolina which recently lowered its fixed cost.

The increase in this mandatory fee takes away customer control over my energy bill robs me of the full benefit of energy conservation efforts. It is important that you protect older consumers who may live on a fixed income.

What this means for senior citizens like me is an annual basic facilities charge of well over \$300 without using any of the electricity! Low income families as well as those on solar power will also be greatly impacted. How can we say this part of the state is one for people to move to for work, retire, etc. when we will have one of the highest standing charges in the country?Vote NO on this proposal!

Sincerely,
Mary Deats

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